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### UM enrollment catapults to record 10,788

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# University of Montana

## NEWS RELEASE

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October 23, 1991

### UM ENROLLMENT CATAPULTS TO RECORD 10,788

#### MISSOULA --

The University of Montana's enrollment leaped to a record 10,788 students this fall quarter, President George Dennison announced today.

Last fall's enrollment was 10,055 -- 733 fewer students than this quarter. The new figure represents about a 7.3 percent increase. This quarter's full-time equivalent enrollment increased even more than the head-count enrollment -- 9,473 compared with 8,810 last fall.

"Under almost any circumstances, this is good news, for it signifies the continued attractiveness of the University to prospective students," Dennison said. "The high correlation of FTE to head-count increase means we have served the students as well as attracted them. Those students found classes."

The largest increase was in the number of freshmen, Registrar Phil Bain said. This fall, 16 percent more freshmen enrolled at the University than did a year ago. The number of graduate students went up 7 percent from last fall.

Other figures remained relatively unchanged, Bain said. For example, the number of transfer students rose by only 30 this fall --

-more-



from 1,340 a year ago to 1,370. The ratio of women to men remained stable at 50-50.

Many factors explain the boost in enrollment, Dennison said, but one of them isn't an increase in transfer students from Montana schools that have switched from quarters to semesters; those figures have remained about the same over the past four years.

Instead, Dennison attributed rising enrollment to the efforts of New Student Services staff and other administrators. "Obviously, high school students, counselors and teachers and transfer students perceive the University to be a place to find an education of high quality."

In addition, during the annual bus tour across Montana, faculty, staff and students spread the word about the University's merits. The most recent tour increased UM's national exposure through a lengthy story in The Chronicle of Higher Education.

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